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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/611,611	
	Filing Date	July 1, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Noel F. Dehne	
	Art Unit	3652	
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	70520-2046

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	PTO-1449 Form (5 pages); Return Receipt Postcard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Douglas A. Mullen Dickinson Wright PLLC
Signature	<i>Douglas A. Mullen</i>
Date	October 16, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
Typed or printed name			
Signature		Date	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Confirmation No. 1450

Application No.:	10/611,611	)
		)
Filing Date:	July 1, 2003	)
		)
Applicant(s):	Noel F. Dehne et al.	)
		)
Group Art Unit:	3652	)
		)
Title:	Workpiece Transport System	)
	With Independently Driven	)
	Platforms	)
		)
<u>Attorney Docket:</u>	<u>70520-2046</u>	)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form PTO-1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

The Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- ☒ (a) within three months of the filing date of the patent application, (b) within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 of the international application, or (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- ☐ **after** (a), (b), or (c) above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, and includes:
- ☐ the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below).
- ☐ the fee of \$240 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).
- ☐ **after** the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, and includes the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below), a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement (see "Petition" below), and the Petition Fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) (see "Fees" below).

#### **Copies Of The References**

- ☐ Copies of the references listed (other than cited U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications) on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith. Attached to each reference not in the English language is a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).
- ☐ A copy of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 were previously identified in the parent application(s) of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 in which copies of the references were previously furnished are set out below:

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/611,611  
Attorney Docket: 70520-2046

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status ( <i>check one</i> )		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
1. 0 /				
2. 0 /				
3. 0 /				

### Other Applications

- ☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to the following U.S. patent application(s) (submitted herewith is a copy of each application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of each application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion):

U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status ( <i>check one</i> )		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
1. 0 /				
2. 0 /				
3. 0 /				

### Certification

- ☐ The **undersigned attorney** hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ The **undersigned attorney** hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application or, to the knowledge of the attorney signing after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/611,611  
Attorney Docket: 70520-2046

**Petition**

- ☐ The undersigned attorney hereby petitions the Commissioner to consider this Information Disclosure Statement and the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

**Fees**

- ☒ No fee is owed by the applicant(s).

**Authorization To Charge Additional Fees**

- ☒ If any additional fees are owed in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1061.

Respectfully submitted,

DICKINSON WRIGHT PLLC

Date: October 16, 2003

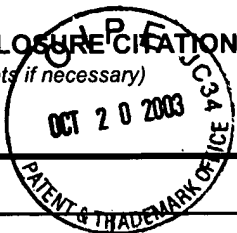
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By: Douglas A. Mullen  
Douglas A. Mullen  
Reg. No. 38,569

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)



ATTY DOCKET NO.

70520-2046

SERIAL NO.

10/611,611

Noel F. Dehne et al.

FILING

July 1, 2003

GROUP

3652

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	363,783	5/1887	Warren			
	2,634,851	4/1953	Steinhoff			
	2,816,643	12/1957	Klamp			
	2,844,241	7/1958	King			
	2,883,942	4/1959	Johnson			
	3,134,489	5/1964	Gillham			
	3,338,429	8/1967	Zetzsche			
	3,415,200	12/1968	Bishop et al.			
	3,511,187	5/1970	Hanna			
	3,518,946	7/1970	Kavieff			
	3,581,670	6/1971	Larivee			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

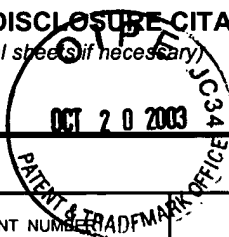

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,707,923	1/1973	Woodling			
	3,810,428	5/1974	Klamp			
	3,948,186	4/1976	McCaul			
	4,144,818	3/1979	Fletcher			
	4,284,188	8/1981	Gram			
	4,438,701	3/1984	Murai et al.			
	4,440,090	4/1984	Murai et al.			
	4,548,135	10/1985	Kupczyk			
	4,564,100	1/1986	Moon			
	4,616,570	10/1986	Dehne			
	4,645,885	2/1987	Blesinger			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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						YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

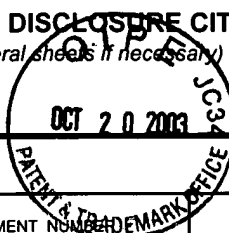

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Noel F. Dehne et al.

FILING  
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GROUP  
3652

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,646,650	3/1987	Kondo et al.			
	4,646,915	3/1987	Ohtaki et al.			
	4,669,388	6/1987	Dehne et al.			
	4,745,865	5/1988	Dehne			
	4,771,697	9/1988	Dehne			
	4,811,685	3/1989	Murai			
	4,924,777	5/1990	Linton et al.			
	4,944,229	7/1990	Arakawa et al.			
	4,947,978	8/1990	Rhodes			
	5,012,917	5/1991	Gilbert et al.			
	5,013,203	5/1991	Wakabayashi			

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

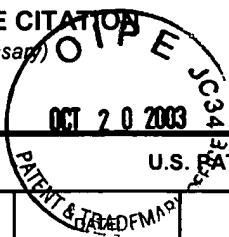
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	5,195,630	3/1993	Donovan et al.			
	5,253,745	10/1993	van den Bergh et al.			
	5,318,167	6/1994	Bronson et al.			
	5,449,056	9/1995	Ross			
	5,503,259	4/1996	Clopton et al.			
	5,517,922	5/1996	Summa et al.			
	5,547,090	8/1996	Richter			
	5,549,050	8/1996	Rhodes			
	5,556,466	9/1996	Martin et al.			
	5,577,593	11/1996	Hooper			
	5,669,309	9/1997	Carlton et al.			

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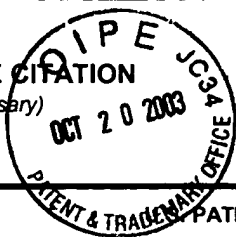

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*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,839,567	11/1998	Kyotani et al.			
	6,161,483	12/2000	Lipari et al.			

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